

Congressman Elijah E. Cummings

U.S. Service Academy Nomination Newsletter

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Winter 2010

ACADEMY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for a nomination, all applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a citizen of the United States, never married, have no dependents and not pregnant.
2. As of July 1, 2009, must be at least 17 years of age and not have passed their 23rd birthday. For the Merchant Marine Academy only, you must be at least 17 years of age and not have passed your 25th birthday by July 1.
3. You must have taken either the ACT or SAT no later than January of the year of admission to the Academy.
4. Your permanent/principal home must be in the 7th Congressional District in order to apply for my nomination, i.e., your parent's legal voting address must be in my specific district.
5. You must also demonstrate leadership potential, moral character, physical fitness, and active participation in extracurricular and community activities.

STEP 1: PRE-CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to "Open a File" at the Service Academy of your choice, you should contact the Admissions Office and request a Pre-Candidate Questionnaire. After completing and returning the Questionnaire, the Academy will notify you of its application requirements.

ACADEMY INFORMATION

- ☆ **U.S. Air Force Academy**
Colorado Springs, Colorado
800.443.9266
www.usafa.edu
- ☆ **U.S. Coast Guard Academy**
New London, Connecticut
800.883.8724
www.cga.edu
- ☆ **U. S. Merchant Marine Academy**
Kings Point, New York
866.546.4778
www.usmma.edu
- ☆ **U. S. Military Academy**
West Point, New York
845.938.4041
www.usma.edu
- ☆ **U. S. Naval Academy**
Annapolis, Maryland
410.293.4361
www.usna.edu

STEP 2: 7th DISTRICT NOMINATION PROCESS

Once you have contacted my office, in writing, requesting a nomination to a U.S. Service Academy, a folder will be created for your materials. All required information **must** be submitted to my Catonsville district office by **November 12, 2010**. Your completed packet should include:

- **Typed Nomination Request Letter (example on reverse side)**
- **Completed Nomination Application (available through my office or on the website)**
- **High School Transcript**
- **SAT/ACT Scores**
SAT report code: 5471
ACT report code: 7449
- **3 Letters of Recommendation**
Written by individuals who can comment on your motivation, abilities, character and potential. **One letter must be from a math or science teacher.** Examples: letters from teachers coaches, counselors, or ministers.
- **Typed Essay**
Explain why you want to attend a United States Service Academy. The essay should be 2 pages, double-spaced.

Please forward all information to:
Congressman Elijah E. Cummings
ATTN: Mrs. Katie Malone
754 Frederick Road
Catonsville, MD 21228
Ph: 410.719.8777
Fax 410.455.0110

STEP 3: REVIEW PROCESS

I have a limited number of nominations available each academic year. To assist me in determining the most qualified candidates, I use a Service Academy Review Board. The Board meets with each candidate and makes recommendations to me based on interviews and the academic materials noted above.

Only candidates with a completed file as of November 12, 2010 will be considered by the Academy Review Board. Applicants will be notified in late December, 2010 as to the time and place of the interviews.

ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS

Most students seek nominations from several sources. Aside from your U.S. Congressmen, nominations are also available from U.S. Senators, the Vice President, and the President. I encourage you to contact Senator Benjamin Cardin (410.962.4436) and Senator Barbara Mikulski (410.962.4510) to find out more about their nomination processes.

FINAL PREPARATIONS

Please be aware that a nomination from me does not necessarily mean that a candidate will be appointed to an Academy. **Final acceptance into one of the U.S. Service Academies is made by the individual Academy.** Because of the extremely competitive admissions environment at the Academies, I encourage you to also apply to other colleges and universities.

U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY SUMMER SEMINARS

If you think you may be interested in pursuing a nomination to one of the United States Service Academies, the Naval, Military, Air Force, and Coast Guard Academies offer a week long summer seminar for rising seniors. These programs expose students to all aspects of Academy life. Scholarships are available to cover Summer Seminar fees for qualifying students. For more information on this program, please visit:

www.usna.edu/Admissions/ (Navy)

http://admissions.usma.edu/moreinfo/summer_cfm (Army)

<http://academyadmissions.com/admissions/summerseminar/> (Air Force)

<http://admission.uscga.edu/i2e/AIMapp/index.asp> (Coast Guard)

Online registration begins in February 2010!



